

Spring/Summer

May, 2010



Rockledge Borough

Rockledge Reporter

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Fourth of July Parade/Fireworks: In celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the parade we have hired additional string bands for the parade and will also be having a fireworks display! In addition to performing in the parade, the **Uptown String Band** will be performing a “mini-concert” at the Firehouse, so plan on stopping at the firehouse after the parade for some additional entertainment! The parade will be held on Saturday, July 3, at 9:00 am sharp. The celebration will continue at Cegielski Playground beginning at 5:00 with games for the kids, DJ, food, etc., ending with a

huge fireworks display!

Rockledge Student Achievements

Special Thank You: Rachel Henrysen, a Rockledge resident and student at Abington Jr. High, recently collected food donations in Rockledge to make meals for elderly homebound residents in the community. Rachel, along with help from her friends, has been able to make 350 meals; she would like to thank everyone who participated with this project and hopes to collect more donations in the future and make

more meals. THANK YOU Rachel and friends!

CONGRATULATIONS to all graduating seniors and **GOOD LUCK** in your future plans!

Paving Project: Borough Council recently voted to take a loan to pave all of Strockville (Winchester, Hensel, Thompson, Burke, Daly, Penn, S. Central, and Loney. This project will also include Montgomery Avenue from Elm to Shady and Loney St. from Church to Fillmore. Paving will occur over the summer months.

Borough Council

Joseph Denelsbeck, *President*

Fran Casey, *Vice President*

Patti Kehoe

Beth Kain

Jason Showmaker

Michael Praediger

Robin Morris

Harold Praediger, *Mayor*

Borough Manager

Grace Metzinger

Administrative Asst.

Joyce Hines

Police Chief

Jerry Miller

Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator

Matthew Reinhardt

Building Inspector

Charles Pluguez

Fire Marshal

Russell Hellyer

Fire Chief

Jerry Morris

Public Works Foreman

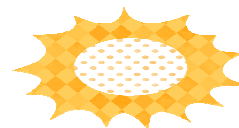
John Hopper

Treasurer

Albert Wartman

Zoning Officer

Jim Kopchak, BIU



Rockledge Recycling/Stormwater Update

Rockledge Recycling Report/Recycling Grants

The Borough was recently awarded a recycling grant in the amount of \$32,031!! We applied for this grant in June of 2008, requesting funds to purchase a new leaf box and we were also requesting reimbursement for half of the cost of the new dump truck we purchased in 2007. Luckily our grant was approved and we can now purchase a new leaf box which will aid in leaf collection this coming fall. Since we already purchased the dump trunk, the remainder of the grant award can now be used for another piece of equipment or purchase down the road.

Receiving a grant of this amount is certainly proof that our recycling efforts really do pay off!

It is so important that we continue to make a concerted effort at increasing our recycling so that we can increase our yearly performance grant awards and at the same time help keep our environment clean. Recycling also saves residents and businesses money as it costs \$70.00 per ton to dispose of trash, while commingled recycling only costs \$21.00 per ton. Thanks so much for your efforts towards increasing our recycling totals!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Computer Collection Program

Montgomery County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Computer Collection Program provides the opportunity to safely and properly dispose of hazardous materials and old computers. **Hazardous waste items include:** automotive products including **car batteries**, motor oil, transmission fluid, brake fluid, anti-freeze, kerosene and gasoline; pesticides-herbicides; household products including drain and oven cleaners, spot remover, dry cleaning fluid, and rug cleaner. Paint products including paint thinner or turpentine, paint remover, oil based paint, furniture stripper and refinisher; and miscellaneous products including dyes, lighter fluids, concrete or asphalt sealers, swimming pool chemicals, and mercury. They will **not** accept tires, propane tanks, items containing Freon, or water base (latex) paints. Latex paints can be dis-

posed of with your regular trash after it has been dried out and is a solid material.

Computer equipment and small electronics include: monitors, CPUs, keyboards, printers, fax machines, copiers, cameras, scanners, cell phones, and televisions smaller than 30" (no units in consoles/cabinets). **Our region's drop-off sites for 2010 listed on the enclosed flier.** For further information call 610-278-3618 or visit the website www.wsaemc.org and click on the Recycling and HHW links.

Construction Materials

- The Borough reminds residents that trash collection is not intended for construction materials, and in fact creates additional cost for the residents of Rockledge. Contractors should be removing their own materials from the work site. If residents are performing the work themselves, then the materials must be hauled away separately, or a dumpster must be rented when substantial construction waste is generated.

Scheduled Pick-up Days

- **Newspaper/Paper/JunkMail:** Mondays at 7 AM
- **Yard Waste:** Mondays at 7 AM
- **Commingled Recycling:** Tuesdays at 7 AM
- **Regular Trash Pickup:** Wednesdays at 7 AM. Trash should be set out in water-tight, rust resistant containers equipped with a tight-fitting lid.
- **Bulk Trash:** First Wednesday of each month; call 610-265-6337 to schedule a white-good pickup.

**Help keep Rockledge beautiful,
Promote recycling in your neighborhood.
Rockledge Borough Thanks You!**

Stormwater Pollution Solutions:

- Storm water runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks and streets prevent storm water from naturally soaking into the ground.
- Storm water can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water.
- Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly and use in the recommended amounts. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain as chemicals will be washed into local streams. Sweep up yard debris rather than hosing down area.
- Traditional concrete and asphalt don't allow water to soak into the ground. Instead these surfaces rely on storm drains to divert unwanted water. Permeable pavement systems allow rain and snowmelt to soak through, decreasing storm water runoff.
- You can collect rainwater from rooftops in mosquito-proof containers. The water can be used later on lawn or garden areas.

These are just a few tips taken from "A Citizen's Guide to Understanding Stormwater" which can be found at www.epa.gov or by going to the Borough website: www.rockledgeborough.org; click on the Emergency tab at the top of the homepage; there are several links with helpful hints regarding stormwater management on this page.

It is illegal to dump chemicals, trash, and dog waste into a storm sewer. Should you witness illegal dumping you should report this immediately to either the Police Department or Borough Office.

A message from Borough Manager Grace Metzinger

Permits/Inspections: Remember to check with the Borough Office before starting any home improvement projects to see if a permit is needed. Keep in mind that zoning approval must be obtained for fences, walls, decks, patios, and additions. **Any time you are planning on covering additional area of your property, zoning approval is needed.** Please remember to schedule a final inspection once the work is complete. State law prohibits the use of any alteration/addition, etc., until a final inspection is completed and a Certificate of Occupancy & Use issued.

Reminder: Trash/recycling/yard waste should not be placed at the curb before 8:00 pm the night before the scheduled pickup day. ****Please remember when cutting your grass this summer that yard waste bags are only picked up on Mondays; bags should not be placed at the curb in the middle of the week.****

Welcome to new Council Member Robin Morris! Robin was sworn in on February 22, 2010, filling the vacancy created by Bill Kelleher's resignation. She is a resident of Burke Street and long-time member of the Rockledge Fire Company, now serving as Treasurer. Robin is a great addition to our Borough Council - Congratulations and Best Wishes!!

POLICE DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS

A Message from Police Chief Jerry Miller

Traffic and Parking: The third phase of the Huntingdon Pike Revitalization Project is well on the way to being completed. From the start of the project came several noticeable changes including granite curbs, wider sidewalks, new street lighting, center turning lanes and extended curb lines and sidewalks which have changed the traffic pattern of Huntingdon Pike. Motorists are reminded that Huntingdon Pike is a single lane highway and are asked to make a mental note of the new changes and as always, drive safely and responsibly while traveling through Rockledge.

Motorists and Borough residents will also notice that several new STOP signs will be erected making the following intersections a **FOUR WAY STOP** intersection:

S. Penn at Burke Street: Motorists will now have to stop on S. Penn Street prior to crossing or turning onto Burke Street.

Abington Ave at N. Sylvania Ave: Motorists will now have to stop on Abington Ave. prior to crossing or turning onto N. Sylvania Avenue.

Montgomery Ave at N. Jarrett Ave: Motorists will now have to stop on Montgomery Ave prior to crossing or turning onto N. Jarrett Avenue.

Parking has and always will be a premium in Rockledge. Motorists are reminded that parking regulations are actively and strictly enforced for the safety and well being of everyone. Motorists are asked to be courteous and conscience of where and how they park their vehicles. The Rockledge Police Department has and will continue to aggressively monitor and strictly enforce all parking violations.

Pennsylvania State Law requires that all vehicles park:

- Not less than 30 feet from a STOP sign.
- Not less than 20 feet from an intersection or crosswalk.
- Not less than 15 feet from a fire hydrant.

Borough Ordinance prohibits roadway parking for dual wheel vehicles, trucks over 10,000 pounds, trailers, motor homes, buses, boats, and limos/taxis.

“Quality of Life” is just one aspect that makes Rockledge a great small town community. Residents are reminded that our Borough ordinances help maintain the quality of life that we have all come to expect and enjoy. To avoid a “Friendly Reminder Notice” and/or a Borough Citation, residents can review all of the Borough ordinances online at www.rockledgeborough.org or contact the Police Department with any questions or concerns.

DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS (cont'd.)

Mayor's Office:

A message from Mayor Harold Praediger:

Please remember to mark your calendars for:

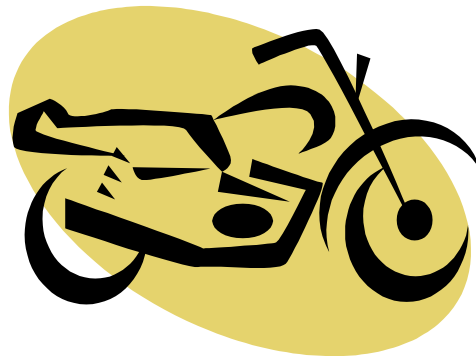
Rockledge Fall Festival and Car Show

Sunday, September 12, 2010

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Huntingdon Pike

Rockledge, PA



Fun and games for kids of all ages; public safety presentation, pet rescue and adoption fair. Music, food, and vendors all day. Rain Date: Sunday, September 19, 2010. For more information, go to www.rockledgefestival.org

Friendly reminder: Huntingdon Pike along with some unit blocks of our side streets will be posted with **NO PARKING** for the day of the car show. Also starting at 1:00 pm until 9:00 pm all the streets leading to Huntingdon Pike itself will be closed to all vehicle traffic.

Public Works Department

A message from Public Works Foreman John Hopper:

Cegielkowski Playground: Please note that lines for parking spots have been painted to accommodate for the extra parking needed now that there are two ball fields. Parking in this lot is for those using the recreational facilities only—overnight parking is not permitted.

Aqua Project: Aqua should be completing their main cleaning and lining project in Strockville by mid-June. These streets are scheduled to be paved once the Aqua project is complete.

Sewer System: Please only deposit toilet tissue in the sewer system! Cleaning rags, hand-wipes, and diapers cause costly

backups in the sanitary sewer system and should not be flushed down the toilet. Please be mindful of what you are depositing in the sewer system so that expensive sewer blockages can be avoided.



PARKS & RECREATION

A message from Councilwoman Patti Kehoe

Rockledge Summer Camp is taking place June 28th through August 6th from 9:00 to 3:00 Monday through Friday. The camp is for children between the ages of 6 and 12. This is provided free of charge to Rockledge residents only. Children go home for lunch from 12:00 to 12:45. Camp will be held at Jarrett and Cegielkowski Playgrounds. Kids can look forward to arts and crafts, games, and trips. Erin Metzinger has been promoted to director. We have two returning counselors, Erica Matus and Kristin Hector, and three new counselors, Brianna Kain, Lauren Metzinger,

and Maureen Melchiorre. Thank you to Beth Crossin for her years of service at the camp. Beth is graduating from college this year and will be seeking full-time employment.

For further information on the summer camp, please call the Borough Office.

Thank You: The 40th Annual Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success! A BIG thank you to all who helped. We really had a huge turnout and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you to the businesses who contributed, we cannot do this without you! Pictures of the Easter Egg Hunt can be viewed on the borough website by clicking on Residents, and then Events.

Cegielkowski Ball Fields:

The new ball field has been completed and is already in use. The existing field has also been renovated and is in use by many teams. Stop down and take a look at the new fields and recently resurfaced tennis courts and hockey rink!



Abington Free Library Programs

Summer Reading Program: Children of all ages (including preschoolers) may participate in the Summer Reading Club at the Abington Free Library. Registration begins June 18. Children will receive a reading log, a coupon for a free Rita's water ice, and a place on the library recognition wall. They will also receive a time log that is redeemable for prizes upon completion of 5, 10, and 15 hours of reading (while supplies last). Reading logs can be turned in to the Abington Free Library any time between August 9 and September 9. Every child who turns in a log will receive a free book.

Family Fun Nights: Six Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. for ages 3 and up. Each week consists of a different theme—magic, puppet show, and storytelling to name a few.

Abington Reads: Young adult volunteers are needed (ages 12-17) to help younger students (K thru 2nd grade) practice reading over the summer. Sign up for one hour per week for this six-week program and earn Service Learning Hours!

Adult Programs: Daytime book discussion groups and a World War II Lecture Series are among the many programs offered to adults.

All programs are FREE and are open to all Rockledge residents with an Abington library card. For more information on any of the above programs or to apply for a library card, visit their website at abingtonfreelibrary.org or call 215-885-5180.

Code Enforcement:

Pools: We receive numerous complaints each summer regarding pools that are not properly maintained. Remember to turn over plastic wading pools when not in use; stagnant water in wading pools becomes a place for mosquitoes to live. Clean and chlorinate swimming pools not in use. A swimming pool left unattended for a month while you're on vacation can produce enough mosquitoes to result in neighbor-wide complaints. Mosquitoes even live in the water that collects on pool covers.

Property Maintenance: This includes cutting the grass and keeping your property free of weeds, trash, etc., and disposing of trash properly. Do not allow trash to build up on your property; place your trash and recycling out every week. Please be mindful of keeping your property free of clutter and debris as the way you keep your property also affects your neighbors.

Fire Department/Fire Marshal

A message from Fire Chief Jerry Morris

The spring/summer season brings with them time for cleaning projects. When cleaning out the garage or basement please properly dispose of the empty cans of paint, old car batteries, pesticides, or used oil. Check out the flier enclosed for this year's drop-off sites.

We are continuously looking for new company members in addition to active firefighters. If you have any questions about the duties, don't hesitate to call me or stop by the firehouse. We are in

need of men/women with business, accounting and/or computer/I.T. backgrounds as company members. Please contact me at 267-228-7162 or stop by the firehouse any Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m.

A message from Fire Marshal Russ Hellyer

Summer Safety Tips:

- **Outdoor Grills:** If you use charcoal for the grill, try the easy light type. They work and you don't need to use lighter fluid. If you use propane, check out the grill before you start. Make sure

everything is in good repair and tight. Please never grill indoors or on the porch. Propane tanks should not be stored in the house or garage. Please be sure the valve on top of the tank is turned off when not in use.

- **Chimeneas:** Please keep them a safe distance from combustibles and have an ABC fire extinguisher nearby when in use. Remember to follow manufacturer's safety guidelines at all time. Open burning is prohibited by Rockledge Borough Ordinance and by the International Fire Code.

Tax Collector

A message from Tax Collector/Treasurer Albert Wartman

- Reminder to those who have not had the opportunity to pay their 2010 Real Estate tax bill. The deadline for paying this tax without a penalty is June 15th. After that time, a 10% penalty is assessed.
- In the event you would like to pay me in person, please call and I will make an appointment.
- When mailing your tax payment, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you require a receipt.
- The 2010 School Tax Bills will be in the

mail the week of July 12.

- In the event you are having someone in the family help you with paying the tax bills and would like those bills mailed directly to them, just drop me a letter with your request and I will be glad to make the change.
- If you do not receive your bill, please call the office and leave a message (215-379-3615) and I will get you a copy promptly.
- Please include your tax bill when paying by mail.
- The Tax Office is located in the basement of the former Rockledge School,

now the Rockledge Municipal Hall.

- Keep in mind that I cannot accept payment of delinquent 2009 taxes. Contact the Borough Office for information on where delinquent taxes can be paid. Delinquent trash and sewer fees must be paid at the Borough Office.
- Hope you enjoy your summer!



Public Service

A message from Councilman Mike Praediger

Abington Community Task Force (ACT): This group has been in existence since 1994 caring about the safety and wellbeing of the Abington-Rockledge Community. It consists of a coalition of diverse organizations working together to

enhance the effectiveness of programs and services for youth and their families in order to ensure a safe and caring community. Visit their website at www.abingtonact.org and click on "Things to Do," for a regularly updated listing of events; or call Janet Seydel 215-379-2097 for more information.

Recycling Containers: Replacement containers can be obtained at the Borough garage (located at 27 S. Sylvania Avenue) Tuesdays through Saturdays from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.



*COME OUT AND CELEBRATE THE 80th
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROCKLEDGE FOURTH OF
JULY PARADE!*

Saturday, July 3, 2010

Parade begins at 9:00 a.m. sharp

Fireworks @9:00 p.m.

******After the parade, be sure to stop
by the Firehouse for an additional mu-
sical performance by the Uptown
String Band! ******



Evening festivities begin at 5:00 p.m at Cegiolkowski Playground:
Games, Moonbounce, DJ, Volleyball and Horse Shoe Tournaments
(teams must have one Rockledge resident).

Refreshments for sale: Hotdogs, Soda, Popcorn, Pretzels, Water
Ice.

An event of this nature requires a lot of additional fundraising. Please consider purchasing a T-shirt for \$10.00 on sale at the Borough Office or at Ackers Hardware. T-shirts will also be for sale at the parade and fireworks. Parade Committee members will be out doing block collection and distributing parade books during the month of June. Your generosity to the parade and fireworks is greatly appreciated!



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Rockledge Reporter
Borough of Rockledge
121 Huntingdon Pike
Rockledge, PA 19046

A Letter from Council President Denelsbeck

Dear Neighbors,

As we head into summer I would like to remind you that the children will be home from school so please drive carefully through the streets. Also we need to keep our properties looking presentable as your property's appearance can help or hurt the home values of everyone on your block. The Borough staff continues to work hard to provide you with the best community life in Pennsylvania. We encourage you to use the Abington Library. As a Rockledge resident you are entitled to use this facility.

We will be celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Fourth of July parade this year. We hope that you can support this effort, which with fireworks will come close to a \$40,000 dollar price tag. We are still in need of financial support; if you would like to make a donation to the parade/fireworks, please contact Grace or Joyce at the Borough Hall. The parade will be much different this year as we have added a number of new groups. Please come out on July 3rd at 9:00 am.

Our business district is looking better and better as we continue to develop Huntingdon Pike. We are always looking for positive suggestions or constructive criticism on all that we do in Rockledge. Please feel free to contact me at jdensbeck@rockledgeborough.org. We hope the work that has been completed will increase traffic to our businesses and improve the property values across Rockledge.

On behalf of all Borough officials, I wish you a Happy Memorial Day and a Festive Fourth of July. God Bless America and God Bless the good people of Rockledge!

Respectfully,

Joseph Denelsbeck, Council President

